

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BANGKO 33524 081344Z  
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 COME-00 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07  
NSAE-00 CTME-00 /020 W  
-----099176 081408Z /40

P 080655Z DEC 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4905

UNCLAS BANGKOK 33524

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ETRD, TH  
SUBJECT: REMOVED EMBARGO ON TEAK PRODUCTS

REF: STATE 287408

1. ACCORDING TO DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, RTG IS DEFINITELY CONSIDERING BAN ON EXPORT OF TEAK LOGS AND CUT LUMBER. PURPOSE OF MEASURE WOULD BE TO DISCOURAGE ILLEGAL POACHING FROM GOVERNMENT OWNED FORESTS, WHICH HAS SERIOUSLY DEPLETED THAILAND'S TEAK RESERVES, AND TO ENCOURAGE PRODUCTION AND EXPORT OF HIGHER-VALUE, TEAK FINISHED PRODUCTS. AS PART OF PROGRAM, RTG WOULD CANCEL EXISTING AGREEMENTS WITH PRIVATE TIMBERING FIRMS AND GRANT RTG FORESTRY ORGANIZATION MONOPOLY OVER PRODUCTION AND SALE OF UNFINISHED TEAK.

2. ALTHOUGH STATUS OF PROPOSED BAN WITHIN RTG DECISION-MAKING PROCESS IS NOT AT THIS STAGE ENTIRELY CLEAR, PRODUCERS OF TEAK ARE TAKING MATTER SERIOUSLY. BANGKOK POST REPORTED ON DECEMBER 7 THAT BOTH SAWMILLERS ASSOCIATION AND TIMBER EXPORTERS AND IMPORTERS ASSOCIATION HAVE REGISTERED CONCERN WITH PM KRIANG SAK OVER "REPORT" PM SANCTIONED BAN. EMBASSY WILL KEEP CLOSE WATCH ON SITUATION AND REPORT DEVELOPMENTS.

2. ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL RTG STATISTICS, THAILAND EXPORTED \$37.5 MILLION WORTH OF TEAK PRODUCTS DURING 1976 AND \$10.8 MILLION DURING FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF 1977.

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PAGE 02 BANGKO 33524 081344Z

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** WOOD PRODUCTS, EMBARGOES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 08-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977BANGKO33524  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770456-0713  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 77 STATE 287408  
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**Review Event:**  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**SAS ID:** 318681  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** REMOVED EMBARGO ON TEAK PRODUCTS  
**TAGS:** ETRD, TH  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
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22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009